



# Motor Gasoline Watch

September 15, 1999

Energy Information Administration  
Office of Oil & Gas

## SUPPLY

- A decline in demand contributed to an increase in stocks last week, despite a decrease in production. Total motor gasoline stocks increased 2.0 million barrels to end the week at 200.5 million barrels. Stocks of reformulated gasoline rose 0.7 million barrels to 38.1 million barrels while stocks of other finished gasoline fell 2.3 million barrels to 115.8 million barrels. Stocks of motor gasoline blending components ended the week at 45.0 million barrels, 3.2 million barrels above the level at the end of the prior week.
- Total motor gasoline stocks at the primary storage level were 8.7 million barrels below the level for the same week last year. Imports of total gasoline averaged 540 thousand barrels per day of which 110 thousand barrels per day were reformulated and 220 thousand barrels per day were blending components.

### Gasoline Production by Petroleum Administration for Defense District (Thousand Barrels per Day)

District	Total Finished Gasoline Week Ending					Reformulated Gasoline Week Ending				
	08/20/99	08/27/99	09/03/99	09/10/99	09/11/98	08/20/99	08/27/99	09/03/99	09/10/99	09/11/98
East Coast (PADD I)	1,042	1,091	1,026	<b>970</b>	1,104	670	644	625	<b>564</b>	581
Midwest (PADD II)	2,000	2,085	2,043	<b>1,972</b>	1,940	273	281	270	<b>318</b>	295
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	3,641	3,549	3,586	<b>3,577</b>	3,537	632	655	676	<b>661</b>	674
Rocky Mountain (PADD IV)	286	286	263	<b>279</b>	237	NA	NA	NA	<b>NA</b>	NA
West Coast (PADD V)	1,351	1,372	1,368	<b>1,408</b>	1,376	1,018	1,036	1,006	<b>1,008</b>	925
U.S. Total	8,321	8,384	8,287	<b>8,205</b>	8,193	2,593	2,616	2,577	<b>2,551</b>	2,475

### Gasoline Stocks by Petroleum Administration for Defense District (Million Barrels)

District	Total Gasoline Week Ending					Reformulated Gasoline Week Ending				
	08/20/99	08/27/99	09/03/99	09/10/99	09/10/98	08/20/99	08/27/99	09/03/99	09/10/99	09/10/98
East Coast (PADD I)	56.1	55.7	54.3	<b>53.6</b>	57.1	18.1	17.1	16.3	<b>16.0</b>	19.9
Midwest (PADD II)	55.4	55.4	54.0	<b>56.1</b>	55.6	2.4	2.2	1.9	<b>2.2</b>	1.2
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	58.2	57.0	56.6	<b>57.0</b>	61.3	8.7	8.9	8.7	<b>9.0</b>	8.1
Rocky Mountain (PADD IV)	5.1	5.1	5.5	<b>5.5</b>	6.0	NA	NA	NA	<b>NA</b>	NA
West Coast (PADD V)	27.4	27.3	28.1	<b>28.3</b>	29.0	11.1	10.4	10.6	<b>10.9</b>	12.8
U.S. Total	202.2	200.5	198.5	<b>200.5</b>	209.2	40.3	38.6	37.4	<b>38.1</b>	42.0

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## PRICES

- Spot gasoline prices rose sharply in the last week, pushed upward by a \$1.60-per-barrel (WTI) jump in crude oil prices. Expectations of continued OPEC production discipline and shrinking global inventories continued to drive markets, aided by a larger-than-expected crude oil stockdraw for the week ending September 3, 1999. The New York Harbor spot price for conventional regular gasoline was 70.20 cents per gallon on September 13, 1999, up 3.40 cents per gallon, while the price of CARB RFG in Los Angeles rose 1.50 cents to 70.00 cents per gallon.
- Retail gasoline prices rose overall for a second week, with the national average retail price for regular gasoline up 0.8 cent to 125.0 cents per gallon as of September 13, 1999. The average price was 24.8 cents higher than a year ago, and the highest since June 1996. West Coast prices continued to ease, reflecting sharp declines in spot prices during August.

### Regular Gasoline Spot Prices by City (Cents per Gallon)

City	Conventional Gasoline					Reformulated Gasoline				
	08/23/99	08/30/99	09/07/99	09/13/99	09/14/98	08/23/99	08/30/99	09/07/99	09/13/99	09/14/98
New York	63.83	66.55	<sup>1</sup> 66.80	<b>70.20</b>	43.43	64.13	65.23	<sup>1</sup> 66.85	<b>69.53</b>	42.38
Chicago	64.07	68.63	<sup>1</sup> 67.05	<b>70.60</b>	42.80	NA	NA	NA	<b>NA</b>	NA
Houston	60.95	61.78	<sup>1</sup> 63.00	<b>66.00</b>	39.68	61.76	63.58	<sup>1</sup> 63.97	<b>70.66</b>	41.05
Los Angeles	66.50	64.25	<sup>1</sup> 62.50	<b>68.00</b>	46.00	75.50	73.25	<sup>1</sup> 68.50	<b>70.00</b>	51.00

Source: Reuters Information Services.

<sup>1</sup>Spot prices as of September 7, 1999, due to Labor Day holiday.

### Regular Gasoline Retail Prices by Petroleum Administration for Defense District (Cents per Gallon, Including Taxes)

District	Conventional Gasoline					Reformulated Gasoline				
	08/23/99	08/30/99	09/06/99	09/13/99	09/14/98	08/23/99	08/30/99	09/06/99	09/13/99	09/14/98
East Coast (PADD I)	116.2	116.5	116.8	<b>119.0</b>	95.0	123.7	124.1	124.8	<b>125.8</b>	102.4
Midwest (PADD II)	119.5	119.4	121.8	<b>122.6</b>	98.0	123.4	120.9	126.8	<b>124.8</b>	104.6
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	116.2	117.2	117.2	<b>118.4</b>	93.6	114.0	114.6	115.0	<b>116.2</b>	95.0
Rocky Mountain (PADD IV)	136.3	136.4	137.1	<b>137.5</b>	112.3	NA	NA	NA	<b>NA</b>	NA
West Coast (PADD V)	141.8	141.4	140.6	<b>139.9</b>	112.9	150.6	148.9	145.2	<b>144.0</b>	112.9
U.S. Average	120.4	120.5	121.7	<b>122.8</b>	98.1	129.8	129.0	129.7	<b>129.4</b>	104.9

Source: Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-878, Motor Gasoline Price Survey.

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